

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner Thirtieth st.—
Drama, Afternoon and Evening.FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street—
EVERYBODY'S FRIEND.WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and Thirtieth
street—OUR AMERICAN COUSIN.ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street—ITALIAN
OPERA—DON GIOVANNI.TERRACE GARDEN THEATRE, 5th st., between Lex-
ington and M. ave.—THE LITTLE TRAPDOOR.THEATRE COMIQUE, 314 Broadway.—King of Car-
rots.BOOTH'S THEATRE, Twenty-third street, corner Sixth
avenue.—ROMEO AND JULIET.BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—PINKIE'S ROSTER RE-
TREAT—L. O. U.GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st. and Eighth
av.—HOT CARROTS.UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Broadway, between Third
and Fourth streets.—AGASSI.OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway, between Houston
and Bleeker sts.—ALADDIN THE MAGICIAN.MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.—
SALAD.PARK THEATRE, opposite the City Hall, Brooklyn.—
WIFE OF 2.BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st., corner
5th av.—NEGRO MINSTRELS' ENTERTAINMENT, &c.718 BROADWAY, EMERSON'S MINSTRELS.—GRAND
EMERSONIAN ENTERTAINMENT.WHITE'S ATHENEUM, No. 563 Broadway.—SPR. ENDIS
VARIETY OF NOVELTIES.TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—
GRAND VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, &c.CORP. FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, St. James Theatre,
corner of 25th st. and Broadway.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELS.STEWART HALL, Fourteenth street.—LECTURE—
"THOMAS HOOD."BARNUM'S MENAGERIE AND CIRCUS, Fourteenth
street, near Broadway.RAILEY'S GREAT CIRCUS AND MENAGERIE, foot
of Houston street, East River.NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN, 23d st. and 4th
av.—GRAND EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS.AMERICAN INSTITUTE FAIR, Third av., between 53d
and 54th streets.NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 615 Broadway.—
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FRENCH AND AM.Our Future Policy in regard to
Cuba—Should Slavery Exist Longer on
the Island?

The existence of slavery in Cuba is a reproach to the United States, and is especially scandalous to the republican party, which has held control of the government for the past twelve years, and has just secured a new lease of power through the personal strength and popularity of President Grant. The crusade against slavery within our own borders brought on the war of the Southern rebellion, cost the nation hundreds of thousands of lives and millions of treasure, and still keeps a large section of the country stripped of those rights guaranteed to all the States by the constitution. The responsibility of abolitionism for the war has been from time to time denied for political effect; but the day has gone by for such sophistry and the truth of history vindicates itself. When Mr. Seward, pending the first election of Mr. Lincoln, declared that the triumph of the latter would enable the republican party within four years to convert the Supreme Court of the United States into a partisan tribunal that would interpret the national constitution as giving no rights to slavery, he committed an act of war just as effectually as did the rebels when they fired the first gun on Sumter. From that moment an appeal to arms became inevitable and slavery in the United States was doomed. No unprejudiced person now thinks of upbraiding republicanism for its attack upon the "institution" any more than they would blame the colonists who threw the tea overboard in Boston Harbor. The end justified the means. But it is questionable whether a party that has carried a great moral idea to a successful issue at home at such enormous risk and sacrifice; that has soaked its own soil with the blood of its best citizens in the cause of freedom for the negro race, can, without censure, refrain from using its power to strike down slavery in the neighboring island of Cuba. Yet we find our republican Congress and the administration at Washington not only abstaining from aggressive acts against the system of slavery in the Spanish colony, but doing much to foster it and keep it in existence. We contend that inasmuch as the party in absolute control of the legislative and executive branches of the government achieved power on the principle of unceasing war against slavery as a great human wrong, it has not the moral right to remain inactive while four hundred thousand negroes are held in bondage on an island lying in our waters and within reach of our hands. Inaction is not, however, the least of its sins. The policy of the dominant party has given direct aid to Cuban slavery, both in its unfriendliness towards the cause of the revolutionists and in its liberal encouragement of Spanish interests in its commercial intercourse with that nation.

We pointed out to General Grant a few days ago the fact that the shortest and surest way to liberate the Cuban slaves is to free the island from Spanish rule. Independence to Cuba means freedom to every human being on the island, for the regularly adopted constitution of the Republic declares that "all the inhabitants," of whatever race or color, shall be "absolutely free." The recognition by the United States of the belligerency of the revolutionists—a recognition to which over four years' successful resistance of Spanish authority entitles them, would speedily close the struggle and drive the Spaniards from the island. This is the judgment of reflecting friends of the patriots, and the unceasing intrigues of the Spanish authorities to prevent such action on the part of our government indicate that they share the opinion. By refusing to Cubans, after four years of rebellion, the rights that were accorded to the South almost as soon as they had raised the banner of insurrection, our government incurs a grave responsibility, of which it ought to be glad to relieve itself, and, as we have heretofore shown, General Grant has now a happy opportunity to make a new departure in his Cuban policy appear a graceful concession to the sentiment of the people who have just re-elected him to the Presidency of the United States by a largely non-partisan vote. Should there be any hesitation about the recognition of Cuban belligerency, or should such action as we believe ought to be taken by the administration fail in securing the desired object, we have still the resort of an earnest appeal to the Spanish government for the abolition of human servitude on the island, and, better still, the means of forcing that concession from Spain if we are serious in demanding it. Up to the present time there has been much talk at Madrid about the emancipation of the slaves in the colonies, and the republican party has declared in favor of such a policy; but the promises of the government appear to have been induced by expediency and the declarations of the republicans seem to have been made more for effect than from principle. The protracted rebellion afforded a favorable opportunity for sweeping away the evil of slavery, had the Spaniards been really desirous of accomplishing that professed object; but so much time has been wasted over unsatisfactory propositions for gradual emancipation and so many difficulties have constantly appeared in the way of action that all faith in the sincerity of the movement has been destroyed.

Intervention with Spain for the liberation of the Cuban slaves is no new proposition to Congress or the administration. Neither has been idle in this direction, so far as sentiment is concerned. President Grant has alluded to the subject time and again; Congress has resolved and memorialized, and Secretary Fish has been as strong in words and as weak in action as usual. Congress long since adopted a resolution declaring that the existence of slavery in Cuba would have an important bearing on the diplomatic and commercial relations of the two countries, and notice to that effect is supposed to have been given by our Secretary of State to the Spanish government. We have plenty of evidence to show that the powers at Madrid stand pledged to our government to abolish slavery on the island, a promise which they have as yet shown no sincere intention of redeeming. In January, 1870, Secretary Fish, writing to the United States Minister in Spain, said, "This government regards the government of Madrid as committed to the abolition of slavery in Cuba;" and the Secretary went on to instruct the Minister that if it should appear that the Cuban insurrection was regarded by the Spanish authorities as finally and completely

suppressed, he would seize the opportunity to inform them that this government, relying on "assurances so repeatedly given," would expect immediate steps to be taken for the emancipation of the slaves in the Spanish colonies. In June, 1870, Senator Sumner presented a report from the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, declaring the "pain of the American government at the fact that the pretension of property in man is still upheld in the island colonies of Spain lying in American waters; that such a spectacle is justly offensive to all who love republican institutions, and especially to the United States, who now, in the name of justice and for the sake of good neighborhood, ask that slavery shall cease there at once." In July, 1870, the correspondence between Secretary Fish and our Minister at Madrid was sent in to the Senate, and from that time the above report was made, the Secretary addressed an official communication to the Minister, in which he spoke of the plan proposed in the Spanish Cortes for the "extirpation of this blot upon the civilization of America" as falling far short of what the American people "had a right to expect." Mr. Fish showed at length the insufficiency and deception of the proposal for a gradual emancipation of the Cuban slaves, and said, "You will state to the Spanish government, in a friendly but decided manner, that this government is disappointed in this project; that it fails to meet the expectations that have been raised by the various conversations with you; that in the opinion of the President it will produce dissatisfaction throughout the civilized world, that is looking to see liberty as the universal law of labor; that it will fail to satisfy or to pacify Cuba; that peace, if restored, can be maintained only by force so long as slavery exists, and that our proximity to that island and our intimate relations with it give us a deep interest in its welfare, and justify the expression of our earnest desire to see prevail the policy which we believe calculated to restore its peace and give it permanent prosperity." These were certainly brave words; but they have unfortunately been unproductive of good. It is now nearly three years since they were penned, and Cuba is still in revolution and the fetters cling to the limbs of four hundred thousand negroes on the island as cruelly as ever. This is not as it should be. A powerful nation like the United States should utter no threat that it does not mean to carry out, and should make no demand that it does not intend to enforce. The republican Congress, which, nearly three years ago, "in the name of justice and for the sake of good neighborhood," asked of Spain that Cuban slavery should cease at once, and which declared that the non-emancipation of the slaves on the island would influence our diplomatic and commercial intercourse with the Spanish nation, is the republican Congress of to-day, with a powerful majority in both branches of the national Legislature. The administration which nearly three years ago declared that the government of Spain was pledged to us for the abolition of slavery in Cuba; which declared that our government, relying on pledges repeatedly given, would expect the immediate emancipation of the slaves in the Spanish colonies; which formally expressed dissatisfaction with a scheme of gradual emancipation, and in view of our proximity to Cuba and our intimate relations with the island pressed for the redemption of the promises of unconditional emancipation, is the administration now in power and about to enter upon a new term of office. Are the republican Congress, the republican administration and the republican party to stand idly by another four years, contented with high-sounding protests, while the Cuban negroes drag out their lives in bondage and suffering?

There is an easy way to force the abolition of Cuban slavery from the Spanish government without the argument of powder and steel. The government and people of the United States are in fact to-day its chief support, and without their aid human servitude in Cuba would not survive a year. Our trade makes slavery profitable on the island; our money enriches the slave owner and confirms him in his desire to rob the negroes of their labor; the revenue we secure to Cuba makes its ownership valuable to Spain and raises up a barrier to its independence and freedom. In 1868, of the whole six hundred and twenty thousand tons of sugar exported from the island in nine months only, from January 1 to September 30, the United States took nearly four hundred thousand tons, and during the same period, of three hundred and thirty thousand tons of molasses, we took nearly two hundred and twenty thousand tons. The sugar crop for the year 1870-71 was five hundred and forty thousand tons, of which the United States received three hundred and twenty thousand tons. We may safely state that we consume on an average between sixty and seventy per cent of the Cuba crop of sugar and a greater percentage of the crop of molasses. This slave-labor sugar, under our present tariff, comes in direct conflict with our free labor, and realizes to the Cubans a larger profit than our own citizens can secure. On the other hand Spain affords us no facilities or advantages in the Cuban markets. Her tariff discriminates against American imports, and the enormous duties are prohibitory of a great part of our products. Machinery and a few articles that cannot well be procured from home are the only things on which the Spanish tariff allows us a fair market in Cuba. Our government thus directly encourages the manufacture of slave products in our immediate neighborhood, and gives life to the system of slave labor. If we were to place a duty of one hundred per cent on the slave-labor sugars of Cuba we should at once do much to loosen the hold of Spain upon the island and to strike the fetters from the limbs of the slaves. The loss of the American markets would be fatal to the present condition of affairs, and it would not be long before the island obtained its freedom or voluntarily sought an asylum within the Union. At all events, it is a policy which should commend itself to republicans, unless their concern for the liberty of the negro has ceased with the enfranchisement of those of the race whose ballots are cast in the United States. At present the party which for the sake of abolition provoked the war of the rebellion stands in the position of encouraging slavery on territory lying at our very threshold; of placing foreign slave

labor in competition with our own free labor; of raising no hand to release four hundred thousand neighboring negroes from the most cruel bondage. Let us see whether President Grant will suffer the Spanish government to trifle with us on the subject of Cuban slavery for another four years, or whether he will boldly take the initiative in carrying into practice the policy which his present Secretary of State has been for the last three years so bold to avow and so incompetent to enforce.

Methodist Missionary Appropriations.

Any one who will take the trouble to examine the schedule of missionary appropriations of the several societies operating from this country among the heathen must be surprised at the steady and rapid growth of the Churches' contributions to the cause of missions. Of the forty and more societies here who carry on missionary work sixteen of them labor among the heathen directly, while others operate among foreigners here in this land and among the "heathen Chinese" in California. The aggregate amount of money spent in this mission work at home and abroad by American national societies was last year nearly six and three-quarter millions of dollars. This is a large sum, but it dwindles into insignificance before the mighty populations for whose evangelization and enlightenment it was appropriated. And yet even large as it appears it is not much more than one dollar a head for every church member in the land—certainly not a very extravagant donation individually for making known the Gospel of Christ to the world and hastening on His kingdom. But more than three and a half millions of this aggregate sum went almost wholly to foreign lands. The Methodist Episcopal Church of America, as it is the largest and wealthiest in the country, raised the largest amount of money for missionary purposes last year of any organization—namely, \$629,921. One Board administrators for the home and foreign fields, so that in the aggregate there is no division of the appropriations made. But the home and foreign work are, nevertheless, as distinct as if the Methodists had, like other Christian denominations, separate Boards to administer to each class of missions. The appropriations last year to the foreign work and to foreign populations in the United States amounted to \$301,938—a little less than one-half of the entire sum. The balance was distributed among the annual conferences, to be by them used as they should judge best. This plan does away with agencies and officers and much clerical help and other items of expenditure which draws upon the missionary income of other churches and societies.

The great changes which have taken place throughout the world during the past year, chiefly in Japan, China and India, and the practical though indirect opening up of interior Africa by the HERNALD expedition, has awakened new zeal and increased the missionary interest of the churches of America in the foreign work. Hence the General Missionary Committee of the Methodist Episcopal Church, now in annual session in this city, has based its appropriations for 1873 upon an income of \$800,000, a sum which the founders of the society would hardly have dared to dream of fifty years ago, when they had but \$2,500 to be distributed over the home and foreign work. But in 1852-53 the Church took a commendable stride from \$152,482 to \$338,068. It then fell off in its contributions until 1862, when the sad havoc of war awakened the kindest and tenderest sympathies of Christian hearts, and a general sentiment prevailed among Methodists throughout the country that the missionary cause would probably suffer because of the war. Every one therefore determined to do more for it than ever. The result was that the receipts leaped from \$272,523 to \$429,768. The year following they went above half a million, and since then they have fluctuated between \$642,740 and \$606,661; and such faith have the Missionary Committee that the receipts for 1873 will overreach their estimates that they have already appropriated \$859,525, and their work is not yet completed. Among the first, if not the very first, to utilize the important discoveries and information given by Mr. Stanley to the world through the HERNALD, the committee has appropriated \$10,000 to establish a new mission in the interior of Africa. And, as it was expressed in the committee meeting on Thursday, if Dr. Livingston ever comes to the surface of civilization, this will become the most important station and Africa the most important foreign mission field in the world. Its people are comparatively thrifty, and, to a large extent, agricultural. Slavery and the slave trade are the primal and continuing causes of their savagery; but when these blots disappear from our Christian civilization there will be no good reason why the same enthusiasm should not burn in the hearts of the colored people of this country for the evangelization of the land of their ancestors that now burns in the hearts of Germans, Swedes, Norwegians, Chinese and others, and that they, like these, shall cheerfully offer themselves to the missionary work among their own people and color. But no such enthusiasm could ever be kindled in the breasts of slaves and of degraded and ignorant chattels. Hence God began here in 1862 to make freemen of the blacks, and in 1872 He has begun to show them the way into the interior homes and hearts of their race in Africa. The increase of appropriations to India and China amounts to more than \$37,500, and the grand total to those countries is \$171,446 in American currency. New missions will probably be planted in those lands, and an entirely new work is to be opened in Japan. The amount appropriated to domestic missions is over \$280,000. Thus the sun is rising, never more to set on the Kingdom of our Lord, Christ.

The President and the Politicians.

Cameron and the Cameronians and the other office-hunting and office-holding politicians of Pennsylvania are giving the President a great deal of trouble. The Philadelphia Post Office is the subject of discordance and annoyance just now; but it is the old struggle over again, and General Grant may expect to have frequent repetitions of it from one set or another and from different localities. There are no more hungry or insatiable people than the small partisan and office-hunting politicians, and no more troublesome and presumptuous men than the leading partisan politicians. There is but one way for the President to save

himself from such perpetual annoyance, and that is to act independently for the public good, and to carry out the principle of civil service reform by keeping in and appointing to office the best men, irrespective of political opinions. It is gratifying to see by our Washington correspondence that the President is taking such a stand, and has, consequently, created consternation among the Pennsylvania politicians by his firmness in the matter of the Philadelphia Post Office. If he will stick to this policy he will be sustained by the people everywhere, and he need not fear the ire of either the small or leading politicians.

The November Meteors and the Weather.

Our planet has been just lately and is now running the gauntlet of the November meteors, which lie in countless myriads near its orbital path. On the 12th of November we reached the confines of this vast meteor stratum of cosmic matter and were several days traversing it. It is now very generally agreed by scientific students that these bodies, generally small, but occasionally weighing several tons, revolve like planets round the sun, which in their course approach the earth, and when seen by us furrowing the sky are ablaze with heat, generated through the resistance and friction offered by our atmosphere. It is very rarely the case that they penetrate to the earth's crust; but it is not pleasant to think that our planet has in its path such innumerable neighbors so near as to dip into its aerial envelope. In 1799 Humboldt and his companion counted thousands on the coast of Mexico on the 12th of November before sunrise; on the same day, in 1833, Arago computed that nearly a quarter of a million passed over the heavens in three hours. Last July several meteorites fell in France, with a violent report, in a clear sky, in the commune of Saucé. On the 8th of last August one was seen at Rome, and its detonation heard and recorded by Father Secchi. It is well known that the periods of greatest display of meteoric phenomena are in every thirty-three years, the last being in 1867 on the night of November 14; but the phenomenon appears to be partial in subsequent and intervening years.

It is a question of great interest whether these displays are connected with the great atmospheric changes. It was observed by Herschel that a vast atmospheric wave annually sweeps over England, to which he gave the now well-accepted name of "the November atmospheric wave," which is the cause of many fearful storms and coast disasters. The Royal Charter gale of 1859, the great Crimean hurricane of 1855, which came near destroying the allied fleet before Sebastopol, and the still more awful storm of December 8, 1703, chronicled by Defoe, are supposed by Herschel to be the beginning, middle and end of this disturbance.

The connection of this season with violent storms in the higher latitudes seems to be suggested by the late weather we have had, with its great alternations. A telegram from Florida on the night of the 12th inst. announced the well-defined appearance there of the celebrated polar bands of cloud, said by Humboldt to telegraphically announce the severest storms. On the same night (Tuesday) a violent storm was predicted at Washington, and began in the far West and in the Missouri Valley and moved rapidly eastward over the lakes, said to be the most severe lake storm of the year, and this storm has been—indeed now—passing over the Middle States and New England. The subject we have suggested for inquiry is well worth extensive scientific research.

The Horse Disease.

The scourge that has been prostrating our horses for the past six weeks in the shape of influenza is now assuming a more fatal character in the form of droupy, and in some stables farcy and glanders have followed the epizootic symptoms. There is no question but that private horses have been more free from the disease than those that have been overworked on railroads, stages and carts; but those who have had palaces for homes have not been exempt from the plague and have had all the various stages of the disease to the last and fatal one of droupy. Veterinary science has been all abroad about the diagnosis of the scourge. Mr. Dunbar does not believe that the disease was atmospherically infectious, while Professor Taylor declares that it is contagious, and too much caution cannot be used to keep diseased horses away from well ones. It was argued by some scientific gentlemen when the disease first broke out that there was no danger whatever, except relapse by exposure, to the well-conditioned horse; but we have seen during the last few days that the reverse is the case, and droupy, farcy and glanders are now receiving the greatest care and were supposed to be improving a week ago. We hope that we have seen the worst of this horse disease, and that the clear atmosphere which we are now enjoying may stay the ravages of the scourge in our stables and that the debilitated animals may recuperate rapidly; but we advise care in keeping the diseased animals away from the well ones, and where farcy or glanders is discovered to destroy the horse at once.

IS IT THE HORSE DISEASE AMONG THE POULTRY?—We have had news for Thanksgiving Day. Up the Hudson and from the highlands and lowlands of this river back to the Susquehanna, and how much further we know not, a terrible disease has broken out among the poultry. Chickens are dying from it by hundreds, and ducks, geese and turkeys in the market are said to betray evidences of the same malady. It appears to resemble the epizooty; the fowl affected has a running at the nose. But, in addition to this symptom of catarrh, the victim becomes dizzy, its head swells and it soon dies as of cerebro-spinal meningitis. In another part of this paper we give the latest information on the subject, and from the facts presented, it appears that this disease is really assuming the form of a destructive pestilence among our domestic fowls. Should this pestilence continue to spread as rapidly as it has been developed we can only hope that at least our beef, pork and mutton will be spared for Thanksgiving Day.

THE STEAMSHIP ARIZONA, it is feared, may have foundered in a storm on the Pacific. But as she was a good, strong ship, and well officered, we adhere to the opinion that she has only been disabled in her machinery, or delayed by head winds and heavy seas, and will yet come in with her full list of passengers and without serious loss of property.

The Spirit and Gospel of Our Religious Press.

The conflagration in Boston is the subject of editorial articles in several of our religious contemporaries. Henry Ward Beecher (in the *Christian Union*) presents a really pleasant picture when he says:—

It would be profane to assume to read the full design of the Almighty in sending so terrible a catastrophe. But it carries lessons on the physical side which cannot be missed. To those whose address is for the time overwhelming the supreme fact, the one thing eternally sure and changeless, is that God's sympathy is close to every troubled heart; that with infinite tenderness He feels whatever we suffer; that the great surge of His love is under us, to lift us mysteriously, even through loss, to higher good.

The *Union*—(turning to politics)—thinks "the democratic party had a first rate funeral, but that it is alive yet, and how long it may last no man knows." The present political situation, as described by the *Union*, is this:—

The coalition which supported Mr. Greeley has been killed past all revival. The talk of its profit being the sympathy after 1868 deceives us. Mr. Greeley tells the story when, in resuming the leadership of the *Union*, he says very frankly: "that he is not in full accord with either of the great parties which have hitherto divided the country." That is just it; there are two parties, the republican and the democratic. The supporters of Mr. Greeley constituted no real party animated by a unifying principle, but a temporary alliance, broken off the first great shock.

The "Decline of Ministerial Influence" is also the subject of an able article in this unusually interesting number of the *Union*. The writer says "the controversies of past generations last longer within the walls of theological schools than they do anywhere else. What, to the living mind of our time, is the controversy between Calvinism and Arminianism, or between the substitution and governmental theories of the Atonement, or the discussion concerning original sin, or Edwards' theory of the will, or the metaphysics of the Trinity? We do not say that such subjects should be ignored. They should be studied attentively, as phases in the mental life of the Church in times past, and with a considerable influence on the present. But to make them the chief subjects of study, to equip and drill students with main reference to these, is like dressing soldiers in medieval armor who have got to face rifled cannon."

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